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Dili, 2 April 1997

His Excellency
Mr. Secretary General of the United Nations
New York - USA

SUBJECT: APPEAL FOR PERSONAL SECURITY

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Since the invasion of my homeland (the District of Ainaro) by the Indonesian Armed Forces, I have always been rejecting all forms of colonialism, including the use of violence, which has been carried out by some sections of the government apparatus, particularly members of the military against the People of East Timor who are not guilty.

However, within the last 3 (three) years, I have intensified my efforts, once I am not able to see any solution whatsoever to the problem.

Concerning to this matter, I would like to present to you, Mr. Secretary General, the following information:

1. On the 11 July 1994, I met your Special Envoy, Mr. BACRE WALY NDIAYE, in Dili, East Timor.
During the meeting, I rejected the statement made by the Commander of the Region 16.4/WD, Coronel JOHNY LUMINTANG, which was made by him prior to the visit of the UN Special Envoy. The Commander stated that, ´in East Timor there was no single execution without previous judicial process.´
Having rejected such a statement, I pointed out to the examples where direct and arbitrary executions and extra-judicial detentions have been carried out against individuals - whom I knew exactly - ANTÓNIO CARVARINO (the Minister of Justice of FRETILIN), LEOPOLDO (Member of the Central Committe of FRETILIN), DOMINGOS MAU-MERA (Representative of FRETILIN in Ainaro), JOÃO XAVIER (Representative of FRETILIN in Ainaro), including 6 (six) other colleagues, Sergeant PINTO, MANUEL MAU CACA, PAUL DOS SANTOS and other massive killings that took place in Ainaro.

2. In the early 1996, I had dealt with different cases where violence was employed and the illegal detention of 13 (thirteen)

civilians by the military at the Sub-District of Zumalai, District of Covalima, to the point where the prisoners were released.

The following steps were used in order to release the detainees above mentioned:

a. I went to Zumalai (some 140 Km south off Dili) with the purpose of visiting the detainees and, at the same time, to pick up one of the detainees, Mr. BERNARDINO BIANCO, who had in fact escaped.

b. I had appointments with the Commanders of the Region 16.4/WD and that of the Special Intelligence Unit and the Governor;

c. On behalf of someone I gave special assistance in writing a letter to the Governor, the Indonesian National Commission for Human Rights, and many others. The letter is annexed (I).

3. I helped Mr. KINTINO EMANUEL, who was detained and tortured by the military in Baucau, on account of being accused to be the murderer of Sergeant Mayor JULIÃO FRAGA.
Evidence of detention/ torture according to the reports made by Mr. EMANUEL was provided to the Indonesian National Commission of Human Rights (its branch in Dili) as annexed (II).

4. I gave assistance in settling the status of the former members of the Portuguese army, who until now have not succeeded in becoming civil servants, because they have been labelled as anti-integrationists and non-Portuguese troops. As a matter of fact, the Governor made a written statement that those individuals were former members of the Portuguese army and therefore they deserved to become civil servants. Drafting the letter addressed to the Governor and making some suggestions to the Governor on behalf of those former members of the Portuguese army were my ways to assist them. The letter is annexed (III).

5. In December 1996, in Jakarta, I refused to sign a declaration by the Traditional Leaders/ Heads of Villages, Community Representatives and the East Timorese Youth.

The reasons for my refusal were:

a. The declaration was not made by the so-called Traditional Leaders/ Heads of Villages, Community Representatives and the East Timorese Youth (signature);

b. We did not go to Jakarta on our own choice, but we were sent by the Governor based on his own initiative and for the vested-interest of some elites in Jakarta;

c. The declaration above mentioned (as annexed) did not reflect the reality in East Timor;

d. I was forbidden to join the group in the meetings with the members of the House of Representatives and the Parliament House and the Ministers in Jakarta, because they knew in advance that I was prepared to talk about the political and security situation and condition in East Timor;

e. We were forced to sign that declaration which took place at the time of the Nobel Peace Prize Awarding Ceremony given to Right Reverend Bishop CARLOS FILIPE XIMENES BELO, the Bishop of the Dili Diocese and our brother Dr. JOSÉ RAMOS HORTA;

f. While in Jakarta, we were under surveillance of the military, and not by the members of the House of Representatives or any related department, not even by the personnel of the East Timor Representative Office in Jakarta;

g. In fact, the majority of the members of our group were not Traditional Leaders/ Heads of Villages, Community Representatives and the East Timorese Youth.

In coming back to Dili and as a result of my political attitude, I was dismissed from my job as Private Secretary of the Governor of East Timor.

6. On the 19 February 1997, I made a political statement on behalf of all East Timorese nationalists pro-independence at an open dialogue comprising the East Timorese Youth, a number of outstanding community representatives, Government Leaders, the Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) and the Church in East Timor, which took place at the Hall of Governor´s Office, Dili.
In my statement, I made an analysis and pointed out ways for solving the East Timor question.
As a logical result of my statement, firstly, I could only read a government decision, (which I cannot provide because I was only given the opportunity to read it by the time of inquiry). The Governor decided to set up a Team to make an inquiry given to condition as a civil servant, once I was considered to be discrediting the Government of Indonesia. The Team made up of members of

the General InspectionIntelligence Unit in the Governor Office, the Provincial Social and Politics Provincial Directorate, the Regional Inspectorate of the Province, Legal Bureau and the Bureau of Public Administration. The Chair of the Team was a Brigadier-General, J. B. HARIBOWO, currently Deputy Governor of East Timor.

Secondly, based on the Letter of Invitation No. UDN-IA/IRSTANAS/II/1997, dated 27 February 1997, by 3 (three) middle rank military officers (members of the Team) I was submitted into interrogation, on the 3 March 1997, at the IRSTANAS Office. The three officers were:
a. Coronel SUTINO - IRSTANAS
b. Coronel SIDABALOK - IRSTANAS
c. Lieutnant-Coronel PITER LOBO - The Social and Politics Provincial Directorate.
During the interrogation, and through a hard and long discussion of about 4 (four) hours, that went from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, I declared clearly that I did not want to be submitted to interrogation, based on the following reasons:

a. The dialogue was an open dialogue, which was deliberately designed to discuss the East Timor question.

b. I read my statement not in my capacity as a civil servant, but as a invited speaker representing the community.

My refusal to be submitted to the interrogation was in written form.

Thirdly, on the 4 March 1997, I was called by the Governor for a meeting in his office.

The meeting began at 12:10 pm and ended at 2:00 pm. The Secretary of the Region, DRS. RAJAKARINA BRAHMANA was present at the meeting.

After a long debate, I was consistent in rejecting any form of interrogation and investigation whatever the reasons.

As a result of my continuing refusal, the Governor decided to:

a. Put an end to the inquiry and that the case was over;

b. Dismiss me from my job as the Private Secretary of the Governor and sent me back to my former office (the Regional Inspectorate of the Province).

Evidence of my statement is annexed (VI).

7. In mid-March, Mr. ÓSCAR LÚCIO GONÇALVES and I wrote a letter dated 16 March 1997 to the President of the Indonesian Republic.

The letter is annexed (VII).

8. On the 24 March 1997, on behalf of all pro-independence nationalists of East Timor, particularly those from the APODETI Party, my colleague (ÓSCAR LÚCIO GONÇALVES) and I met the UN Special Envoy for East Timor, Mr. JAMSHEED MARKER, in Dili.

In very general terms, we firstly described the way Indonesia have treated the East Timorese during 21 years of integration. We then declared that the majority of the East Timorese wanted freedom and independence. Thirdly, we proposed a REFRENDUM in East Timor as a way for the East Timorese to determine their own destiny and future. We also proposed the criteria for a REFERENDUM, as stipulated in our letter to the President of Indonesia.

9. On the 25 March 1997, (not on my initiative), I was interviewed by foreign journalists (Radio Portugal) via telephone.

Due to my attitude and as I have expressed before, by the end of March, I heard that the military in East Timor had formed a Team consisted of 12 (twelve) people, 6 (six) amongst them with firearms to kill me.

Although that information might not be right, I am nearly sure that it was provided by my reliable information network. On the 20 February 1997 (the day after the open dialogue), at 7:45 pm, when I stopped my car at the petrol station of Fatu Hada, Dili, my family and I were fired with tear gas from within a taxi, by someone we were unable to recognise.

Moreover, I am certain of such a plan of assassination, because so far in East Timor, political leaders who are courageous in expressing different views are often tragically killed or detained, tortured and illegally arrested.

Through this letter, I would like to draw your attention and ask your generosity, Mr. Secretary General, and providing conditions for my personal security, and also the security of all East Timorese politicians, who at this very last moment continue to fight for the freedom and independence of East Timor.

Before ending, I would like to thank you and I continue to pray may God give you strength and good health to lead the United Nations throughout the twenty-first century with great confidence and optimism.

Signature: DRS. FRANCISCO LOPES CARVALHO

cc:
1. The International Commission of Human Rights in Geneve;
2. The President of Portugal in Lisbon;
3. The President of the Republic of Indonesia in Jakarta;
4. His Holiness The Pope in Rome;
5. Senator P. Kennedy in Washington, USA;
6. The Bishops of Dili and Baucau;
7. The Leaders of all Parishes in East Timor;
8. The Commander of the Region 16.4/WD in Dili;
9. The Governor of East Timor;
10. The President of the Parliament of East Timor;
11. The Head of the ICRC Delegation in Dili;
12. Archieve.-

NOTE: All copies were sent without the annexes except for the International Commission of Human Rights in Geneve.

(signature)